

In the Specification

Kindly insert a new first paragraph in the specification as follows:

-- **REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/442,646, filed 1/23/03. --

Please enter the following changes in the Specification:

Page 2, line 1, change "Spandex" to **SPANDEX®**

Page 2, line 2, change "Lycra" to **LYCRA®**

Page 2, line 4, change "Spandex" to **SPANDEX®**

Page 5, line 8, change "Spandex" to **SPANDEX®**

Replacement paragraphs indicating the changes in the specification that are summarized immediately above are presented on the immediately following page. The corrections to the paragraphs are indicated by strikethrough (for deletions) and underlining (for additions).

## Replacement Paragraphs

Page 2, first paragraph:

Spandex SPANDEX® was the first manufactured elastic fiber, and was introduced by Dupont under the tradename Lytra LYCRA® in 1958. Due to its improved strength and ability to hold a dye, spandex replaced extensible fabrics woven from rubber fibers in most garment applications. Spandex SPANDEX® fiber is a long-chain synthetic polymer comprised of at least 85% segmented polyurethane. The polymer chain is a segmented block copolymer containing long, randomly coiled, liquid soft segments that move to a more linear, lower entropy structure. The hard segments act as "virtual cross-links" that tie all the polymer chains together into an infinite network. This network prevents the polymer chains from slipping past each other and taking on a permanent set or draw. When the stretching force is removed, the linear, low entropy, soft segments move back to the preferred randomly coiled, higher entropy state, causing the fiber to recover to its original shape and length. The segmented block copolymer is extruded into a fiber comprised of a plurality of coalesced fine filaments. The fibers are woven to provide an extensible fabric. The size and density of the interstices in the fabric depend on the "thread count" and can generally be varied in the weaving process.

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Turning now to Figure 2, a process for fabricating the skin dressing 10 is illustrated in plan view. A release film such as a polycarbonate carrier sheet 13 is

fed from a bulk roll 20, and brought into and through the gel coating application device 21, wherein the carrier sheet 13 receives a layer of unvulcanized liquid silicone gel material 12 having a predetermined thickness. Upon leaving the coating device, the Spandex SPANDEX<sup>®</sup> fabric 11 is introduced directly onto the exposed liquid silicone gel surface 12 of the carrier sheet 13 prior to entering the heat-curing oven 22. While passing through the oven 22, the silicone gel component layer 12 is cured, or transformed by the heat into its final nonfluidic gel state. After leaving the oven 22, the bulk, finished product 10 is then rolled onto a take-up reel 23 for storage, secondary bulk cutting, or final shape cutting.